



METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION
SERVICE AUTHORITY
FOR FREEWAYS
AND EXPRESSWAYS

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Memorandum

TO: Operations Committee

DATE: May 1, 2009

FR: Executive Director

W.I.: 1236

RE: Contract - Freeway Performance Initiative: Dowling Associates, Inc. and PBS&J

Background

In March 2006, the Commission directed staff to develop a freeway strategic plan, called the Freeway Performance Initiative. In October 2006, MTC entered into the first set of competitively procured contracts to perform technical assessments of some of the major freeway corridors in the Bay Area. This work included the identification of major bottlenecks, determination of the causes of congestion problems, development of potential mitigation measures, and an assessment of their effectiveness. Working in collaboration with Caltrans and Bay Area Congestion Management Agencies, these recommendations became the initial proposals for the Transportation 2035 Plan.

With the first set of contracts and studies nearing completion, this second set of studies will continue the development of the Bay Area freeway strategic plan:

- An assessment of medium and long-term traffic management strategies for US-101 in San Mateo County. This study will be conducted in collaboration with Caltrans, the City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County, and the San Mateo County Transportation Authority, and will include an investigation of HOV and HOT lanes in the corridor. The funding for this study includes a Caltrans contribution of \$200,000 as approved by MTC Resolution 3883 in January 2009.
- An operational and safety study of SR-12, from SR-29 to I-5. Staff has been working with Caltrans, Solano Transportation Authority, Sacramento Area Council of Governments, and San Joaquin Council of Governments to identify existing problems and long term needs for this vital inter-regional east-west corridor. Although agreements have not yet been finalized, it is expected that the involved agencies will share the cost of this study.

- Integration of recommendations and strategies from the Freeway Performance Initiative corridor studies with the proposed Regional Express Lane network.

The cost estimates for these studies are preliminary, but the total amount will not exceed \$2,600,000. The exact amount of each study will be determined after the study scopes have been finalized. With contributions from other agencies, MTC SAFE would fund approximately one half of this amount.

Request for Qualification

A Request for Qualifications was released on March 23, 2009. Statements of Qualifications were received from eight firms on April 22, 2009. A panel consisting of staff from MTC, Caltrans, and the City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County evaluated the qualifications and selected four firms for interviews, CH2M Hill, PBS&J, Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., and Dowling Associates, Inc., based on the following criteria: demonstrated ability to conduct freeway corridor traffic analysis, familiarity with Bay Area traffic and congestion patterns, depth of technical resources, and cost effectiveness.

Following the interviews held on April 28, 2009, the panel recommends Dowling Associates, Inc. and PBS&J for the following reasons:

1. Expertise in the principles of traffic operations and congestion mitigation;
2. Ability to use and interpret results from traffic analysis software;
3. Experience in development and assessment of congestion mitigation strategies;
4. Knowledge in system management and intelligent transportation systems;
5. Depth of staff resources; and
6. Flexible, yet realistic approach to adjust to scope, schedule, and budget changes.

Individual corridor studies will be assigned to specific firms, based on the best match between corridor characteristics and each firm's strengths.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that this Committee authorize the Executive Director or his designee to negotiate and enter into contracts with Dowling Associates, Inc. and PBS&J, in a total amount not to exceed \$2,600,000.

Steve Heminger

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REQUEST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL

Summary of Proposed Contracts

Work Item No.:	1236
Contractor(s):	Dowling Associates, Inc., Oakland, CA PBS&J, San Francisco, CA
Work Project Title:	Freeway Performance Initiative Traffic Analysis
Purpose of Project:	Continue development of a strategic plan for the operations of the Bay Area freeways, including a prioritized list of proposed congestion mitigation projects.
Brief Scope of Work:	Analyze existing traffic conditions, identify causes of congestion using appropriate traffic analysis techniques. Propose mitigation measures, including consideration of performance measure and costs. Prioritize the final list of projects.
Project Cost Not to Exceed:	\$2,600,000 (divided between the two firms)
Funding Source:	CMAQ and SAFE funds
Fiscal Impact:	Project is included in current agency budget.
Motion by Committee:	That the Executive Director or his designee is authorized to negotiate and enter into contract(s) with Dowling Associates, Inc. and PBS&J to conduct the studies described above, and the Treasurer is authorized to set aside a total of \$2,600,000 for the two contracts.
SAFE Operations Committee:	<hr/> Amy Rein Worth, Chairperson
Approved:	Date: May 8, 2009